GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:11
ANSWERED ON:13.02.2009
PROBLEMS IN POWER TRANSMISSION
Mandal Shri Sanat Kumar

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agency of the Government monitors transmission of power in the country and problems related thereto;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the transformer testing facility available in the country is inadequate;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF POWER(SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE)

(a) to (e) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 11 TO BE ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 13.02.2009 REGARDING PROBLEMS IN POWER TRANSMISSION.

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir. The Electricity Act, 2003 has mandated the establishment of National Load Despatch Centre, Regional Load Despatch Centres and State Load Despatch Centres which have been authorized to monitor the transmission of power in the Grid and take necessary remedial action to ensure secure and economic operation of the Grid in accordance with the grid standards to be specified by CEA and grid code to be specified by Appropriate Commissions.

Some of the major problems being encountered in the operation of the Power Grid in the country are the large gap between the demand and supply, overdrawal by number of Utilities under low frequency operation, severe frequency and voltage fluctuations due to inappropriate management of active and reactive demand by the generators and loads, inadequate trained manpower at the State Load Despatch Centres, no ring fencing of the operation of State Load Despatch Centres (SLDCs) from the transmission utilities and lack of transparency in facilitating open access by the SLDCs.

(c) to (e) : All facilities for testing of transformers upto 400 kV class, except for the Short Circuit test, are available in the country. The Short Circuit testing facility for transformers is available at Central Power Research Institute (CPRI) but limited to testing transformers upto 90 MVA and 245 kV voltage class. The Electrical Research and Development Association (ERDA), an autonomous Research Association of the Indian Electrical Industry and Utilities also has Short Circuit testing facilities limited to testing transformers upto 4 MVA and 33 kV voltage class.

Ministry of Power has taken an initiative to form a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) of four power sector Public Sector Undertakings (PSU) viz. National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL), National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) and Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) to set up the online Short Circuit testing facility at one of PGCIL`s 400 kV substations. A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed on 1.12.2008 to this effect. The PSUs would contribute towards equity of the cost of the project.